

# Basis of Constitution



RULES AND REGULATIONS  
adopted by  
SASKATCHEWAN SUPPORTERS  
of the  
NEW NATIONAL POLICY

As adopted at Convention of Constituency Executives held in Regina  
Sept. 17-18, 1919.



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*Issued by*  
**THE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE**  
*of the*  
**NEW NATIONAL POLICY**

Farmers' Building

REGINA, Sask.

## FOREWORD

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The following Rules and Regulations are the result of a determination by the farmers of Saskatchewan to make an organized effort to secure the election to the Parliament of Canada, of suitable representatives pledged to support the principles set forth in the New National Policy as enunciated by the Canadian Council of Agriculture. Following, and in accordance with a mandate given to the Executive of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, at the convention held in Regina, Feb. 18 to 21, 1919, conventions were held the following June in each of the sixteen Federal constituencies of the province. At each of these conventions a constituency organization was created, a committee covering the entire constituency was elected, which in turn elected an Executive. All these Executives, were by the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, in accordance with its promise to the June conventions, called to a Provincial convention in Regina on Sept. 17-18, 1919, to create an organization for the better carrying out of their purpose. At this meeting the following Rules and Regulations were adopted for the guidance of the supporters of the New National Policy.

## BASIS OF CONSTITUTION



### Composition and Purpose

1. Provincial meetings of this movement shall be constituted of the executives of the constituency committees hereinafter described and such others as the provincial committee may decide; but not more than twenty in number.

2. The constituency committees referred to in clause (1) are those committees elected by and at the conventions of supporters of the political platform of the Canadian Council of Agriculture as adopted by the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, these conventions having been called by the said association through its locals "for the purpose of providing convenient facilities by which they may organize themselves so that they may best secure election to parliament of suitable representatives."

3. This meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a permanent provincial committee for the more advantageous directing of the movement in this province for direct political action in support of the aforesaid platform.

4. It is recognized that the sole purpose of the movement is to secure the election to par-

liament of suitable persons pledged to use their vote in parliament and their influence in support of the principles enunciated in the aforesaid platform. To this end this meeting finds it expedient to enact the following rules and regulations, declarations and recommendations.

### **Provincial Convention**

5. This meeting and future meetings of the same representative bodies called as hereinafter provided shall be termed herein "The Provincial Convention."

6. A provincial convention may be called at any time prior to the next federal election and at such place as the provincial committee or the provincial executive shall decide.

7. The powers of the provincial convention shall be vested in the provincial committee at all times except that the convention, when in session, shall have power to instruct the committee.

8. The provincial convention shall have power to add to or change these rules and regulations by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, but it shall not have power to alter the main purpose of the convention or of the provincial committee, as stated herein.

### **Provincial Committee**

9. There shall be a provincial committee composed of the chairmen of the constituency committees.

10. The committee shall have power to add to its numbers not more than five persons by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at any regularly called meeting.

11. Meetings of the provincial committee shall be held at the call of the chairman, the executive, or a majority of its members, by mailing to each member a notice of the date and place thereof not less than fifteen days prior thereto.

12. It shall elect from amongst its members a chairman, a vice-chairman and five others. These shall constitute the provincial executive.

### **Provincial Executive**

13. Meetings of the provincial executive shall be held at the call of the chairman, the secretary, or a majority of its members by sending a notice of the time and place thereof to each member not less than five days prior thereto.

14. No failure of sending the required notice shall in any way affect the power of a meeting to exercise the full functions of the executive provided that all the members are present thereat or that all the absent members have agreed to waive such notice.

15. The executive shall appoint a secretary-treasurer or a secretary and a treasurer and such other officers or employees as it seems fit and fix the duties and the remuneration of each of them.

16. It shall be vested with the full powers and functions of the provincial committee subject only to the rulings and directions of the committee in meeting.

17. It shall receive all contributions made for prosecuting the work of the provincial committee and render to the committee, when requested by it, a proper accounting thereof.

18. It shall have absolute discretion in the spending of these monies, except as the committee may give instructions or that the trust under which they are contributed may limit its powers.

#### **Duties of Committee and Executive.**

19. It shall be the duty of the provincial committee and the provincial executive to endeavor to carry out the purpose of this movement as described herein.

(a) By fulfilling the part of a central committee for the various constituency committees.

(b) By endeavoring to perfect as election organization those organizations already formed in the various federal constituencies.

(c) By advising the constituency committees and assisting them in organizing nominating conventions and conducting election campaigns when the same have been decided upon.

(d) By endeavoring to secure the adoption in practice by the constituencies of the rules laid down in section 20 hereof.

(c) By co-operating with the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the Grain Growers' Guide in the dissemination of education and propaganda in support of the principles of the said platform.

(f) By co-operating so far as feasible in other provinces having the same or similar objects.

### **Nominating Conventions.**

20. This meeting further declares as follows:

(a) That in calling nominating conventions, the following rules should be followed by constituency committees:

(1) So far as feasible representation at nominating conventions shall be on the basis of polling subdivisions.

(2) Delegates shall be elected in open meetings of contributing supporters of the platform well advertised beforehand and free to all classes.

(3) Women shall have the same standing as men and be eligible to any office.

(b) No person contributing directly to the expenses of a delegate or delegates to a nominating convention other than by contribution to the funds of the constituency committee should be eligible for nomination as candidate.

(c) It is recommended that there shall be a constituency convention of the supporters of the said platform annually to receive reports of the constituency committees and of the constituency's representatives in parliament and to elect a committee for the ensuing year.

21. While clearly comprehending that this movement has been launched for the purpose of securing the election to parliament of candidates who can be depended on to support at all times the demands for economic reforms contained in the platform of the organized farmers, it is not proposed to make it a class organization. All members of all classes regardless both of vocation and of former political affiliations, shall be eligible for any office or for parliamentary candidature provided they desire the enactment of legislation giving effect to these demands.

We seek to establish a new basis of political grouping and desire that all electors believing in the principles of the platform should group themselves for the purpose of returning to parliament persons who are known to be devoted to these principles by conviction and who can be depended on to represent the views of their supporting constituents in parliament at all times.

To this end we trust that all true advocates of these principles will place them above party allegiance and join with us in an earnest effort to establish them in legislation.